

Debunk Delinquency Claims

Nathanson Quits British Lion

Paul Nathanson, president of Odeon Theatres of Canada and partner of J. Arthur Rank, has retired from the board of directors of British Lion Corporation Limited as a result of the purchase of the N. L. Nathanson Estate's 50 per cent interest by Sir

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Indies' Meeting Elects Officers

Ben Freedman, Toronto, was returned to the presidency of the Independent Motion Picture Exhibitors' Association of Ontario for his fourth term at the recent annual meeting held in the King Edward Hotel, Toronto.

Only change in the executive

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No Tieup Between Moviegoing And Crime, Experts Say

Claims by small sections of the community that motion pictures are major contributors to juvenile delinquency received a number of denials during the past week from sources much closer to the industry and to the problems of youth training than were the critics of the influence of films.

Pete Myers Returns To United Artists

Pete Myers, who left the sales staff of the Toronto branch office of United Artists in 1942 to join the Royal Canadian Air Force, has returned to his post after an absence of four years.

He joined UA in 1935 and has been a popular figure in the industry ever since. His colleagues welcome him back.

Pete is one of three brothers in the film industry in Canada. Bob Myers recently returned to his booking job with Famous Players after a spell in the navy, and brother Alex is a newsreel director with a National Film Board unit.

For the first time in years the leaders in the movie industry in Canada have seen fit to issue statements regarding the public discussion and the attacks on film exhibitors by certain elements.

Morris J. Stein, eastern division manager of Famous Players Canadian Corporation, declared that "the responsibility for juve-

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New Flynn Book

Errol Flynn's second book, "Showdown," will be on the bookstands late this month. Publisher is Sheridan House.

Plan Six Houses In Quebec City

Quebec newspapers have published reports recently that a number of new theatres are to be built in Quebec City. One story has Consolidated Amusements Corporation intending to build four new theatres, and Famous Players, although an affi-

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UA Charts Canada Sales Campaign

In line with United Artists' other regional meetings, an eastern Canadian sales meeting was held in the Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, last week. It was presided over by Charles S. Chaplin, Canadian general manager. In attendance were Douglas Rosen,

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Huge Boost in Que. Censorship Fees

Drastic increases in the fees for inspecting theatre advertising accessories by Quebec censors have caused protests from both the exhibition and distribution sections of the industry. In some cases the new fees, raised under Order-in-Council No. 182, are ten times higher than before.

The censorship fee for 35 mm. films has also been raised. It is now \$6 per 1,000 feet, instead of \$3. The Quebec charge is now the same as that of Ontario but in the latter province all advertising accessories are inspected and censored for the overall charge of \$1, thus reducing the general cost.

Representations against the Order-in-Council, which makes Quebec's censorship charges the highest in Canada, are being made to the attorney-general, the

(Continued on Page 3)

Pioneers Initiate 35 Members

Leo M. Devaney, who succeeded the late Clair Hague as president of the Canadian Picture Pioneers when the latter passed away last year during his term of office, was returned to the presidency of the organization at its fifth annual meeting, held in the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, last week.

Officers were chosen from 11 members elected to the board of directors during the business session. Ben Cronk, popular veteran and long-time friend and associate of Clair Hague, headed the poll. Others elected were Oscar Hanson, Morris Stein, Ray Lewis, Clare Appel, Jack Arthur, Len Bishop, Nat A. Taylor, Tom Daley, the Hon. J. Earl Lawson and Devaney.

Election of officers was held by the directors several days

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B & F CIRCUIT PLANS TORONTO DRIVE-IN THEATRE

Canada's first Drive-In theatre may be that planned for immediate construction on the Queen Elizabeth Highway, at the Dixie road, several miles from Toronto, by B & F Theatres, Queen City circuit affiliated with Famous Players.

It will occupy 18 acres and accommodate 800 cars on its various ramps. A speaker will be placed in each car and the patron will be able to regulate the sound. Individual heaters will be provided on chilly days.

The screen, raised to the needed height on stilts, will be protected by a hood. Such theatres have proved popular and successful in eastern USA, which is in the same weather zone. Kaplan and Sprachman, Toronto, are the architects.

The Madonna's Secret

psychological drama with double-edged suspense! A REPUBLIC PICTURE distributed by EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL FILMS LIMITED.

starring FRANCIS LEDERER, GAIL PATRICK, ANN RUTHERFORD and EDWARD ASHLEY, is a stirring

BERGMAN
The Magnificent...

FIRST LADY OF THE SCREEN

Winner of screendom's most coveted honor, the Academy Award...now portraying the woman of science, a hunted creature fleeing with a man without a name...risking everything on one daring experiment to free the secret locked in his tortured mind.



DAVID O. SELZNICK
presents

INGRID BERGMAN
GREGORY PECK

in
ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S

SPELLBOUND

*Screen Play by BEN HECHT • Released thru United Artists
Directed by ALFRED HITCHCOCK*

A SELZNICK INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

Opening Across Canada
THIS MONTH!

UNITED ARTISTS

UA Charts Canada Sales Campaign

(Continued from Page 1)

Toronto branch manager; George Heiber, Montreal branch manager; Sam Kunitzky, Saint John branch manager; and Al Iscove, sales representative for Ontario and Quebec.

During the two-day sessions, discussions were held on the sales policies of pictures currently in release and those to be released in the near future. All phases of exchange operation, publicity and exploitation in connection with each branch were analyzed and plans formulated for speeding sales and the liquidation of all product.

Circuit heads with whom discussions were held regarding new product were: J. Arthur Hirsch, president, and Tom Cleary, advertising manager of Consolidated Theatres; John Ganetacos, general manager and buyer, Confederation Theatres, and director and buyer, United Amusement Theatres; William Lester, general manager and buyer, United Amusement Theatres, and operator of the Empire and Cartier Theatres, Quebec City; and Raoul Auerbach, general manager and buyer, and Myer Axler, supervisor of the 20th Century Theatres circuit.

Chaplin is scheduled to plane out of Toronto late in February on an extended trip to western Canada. Meetings will be held with branch managers, salesmen and bookers in Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver. Appointments are now being arranged with western Canadian circuit-heads and exhibitors. In addition to meetings in exchange centres, stopovers will be made in Regina, Lethbridge and Edmonton for negotiations with exhibitors in those cities.

He will be away from Toronto for approximately three weeks during which time he will travel over 6,000 miles.

New Showplace For Lindsay

Lindsay, Ontario, will get a new \$80,000 theatre, put up by Twentieth Century Theatres, according to a report in a recent issue of the Lindsay Daily Post.

Musclow Wins Film Award

Jack Musclow, manager of the Capitol Theatre, Kitchener, Ontario, has been judged a winner in the recent "Tomorrow Is Forever" contest by International Pictures and has been awarded a Thorens desk lighter and a personally autographed photo from Claudette Colbert, the star.

Pioneers Initiate 35 Members

(Continued from Page 1)

after the annual meeting. Oscar Hanson remained as vice-president, Ray Lewis secretary-treasurer, George Beeston honorary treasurer, J. J. Fitzgibbons public relations director and Dave Ongley solicitor.

Ben Cronk is chairman of the membership committee, with Tom

rie, Maurice Doyle, Solly Cohen, Bill Edward, Al Ritchie, Jack Laver, Len Bishop, Walter Graydon, Roy Downey, Bill Kerr, Abe Polakoff, H. J. Hills, Bill Weiss, Harold Stone, Clarence McMahon, Jimmy Sturgess, John Dickson, J. D. Stanfield, Gus Demery, Don Gauld, Lorne Duck and Bob Higgins, all from Toronto. New members from other places were Jim Foy, Oshawa; Charlie Quick, Ottawa; Earl Scandrett, Woodstock; and Bill Singleton, Montreal.

Leo Devaney, 1945 president, was presented with a wallet on behalf of the organization by Jack Arthur. He paid tribute to the late Clair Hague, founder of the Canadian Picture Pioneers.

During the evening an Associated Screen News crew, headed by Pioneer Roy Tash, famed Canadian newsreel photographer, recorded some of the doings for presentation at next year's meeting. During the evening the ASN reel of last year's session was screened and proved to be vastly amusing to those present. The film, "As Others See Us," carried introductory and closing remarks by Leo Devaney and featured a rhymed but sprightly commentary by Ray Lewis, secretary of the Pioneers.

A visitor to the Toronto gathering was Mitch Bernstein, B & L circuit, Saint John, N.B. Wires greeting the members were received from Jack Watson, Regina, and the Vancouver Pioneers.

Twentieth Century Announces Changes

James O'Neill, formerly assistant manager of the Grand Theatre, Sudbury, has been moved to the Midtown, Toronto, as assistant manager, Twentieth Century Theatres announces. Al Hewitt, formerly assistant manager at the Circle Theatre, Toronto, has been promoted to manager of the Community Theatre there. Lionel Axler, formerly with Inter Theatre Services Limited, is now the assistant manager of the Victory Theatre, Toronto.



TOM DALEY

Daley, Len Bishop and Morris Stein serving with him.

Jack Arthur heads the entertainment committee, of which the other members are Tom Daley, Ben Cronk, Archie Laurie and Len Bishop.

Clare Appel is publicity director.

During the meeting 35 applicants who had been in the industry for 25 years were accepted for membership and took part in a farcical initiation that was part of the entertainment which climaxed the gathering. The entertainment committee, headed by Jack Arthur, provided the best evening's fun in the history of the Pioneers.

Those initiated were Barney Fox, Joe Cohen, George Giles, Harry Lester, Al Troyer, Earl Winslow, Willard O'Neil, George Morrell, Al Easson, Charlie Quer-



LEO M. DEVANEY

Reelected to the presidency of the Canadian Picture Pioneers at their meeting in Toronto last week.

Maxted Narrates

Stanley Maxted, Canadian radio announcer-singer, speaks the commentary on a new Rank film on the Battle of Arnhem.

Browns Bereaved

Friends of Pete and Win Brown were saddened recently by the news that they had lost their mother, Mrs. Sarah Jane Brown, in her 83rd year. We join with their other friends in offering them condolences.

Pete is with General Theatre Supply, Win with Regal Films.

Quebec Boosts Censor's Fees

(Continued from Page 1)

Hon. Maurice Duplessis, who is also the Premier.

A set of eight 11 x 14s, which retail to the exhibitor for \$1, now costs 80 cents to censor instead of eight cents.

A 14 x 36 or 22 x 28 one-sheet, price 50 cents, now costs 25 cents to censor instead of three cents.

A 24-sheet, price \$3.60 to the exhibitor, now costs \$1 to censor instead of ten cents.

Stills, 8 x 10, which retail for 15 cents each, now cost 25 cents to censor instead of one cent.

Slides, which are sold for 25 cents each and until now did not require censorship, are inspected for 25 cents each.

The only reduction is that of circulars. Formerly these cost \$5 per 1,000 to censor but that has been reduced to \$3.

It was felt that the changes in the personnel of the Quebec board would have some effect but such a great increase in charges was not foreseen by the industry.

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TRULY GREAT!



**HE FOUGHT FOR LOVE...
FOR FUN... FOR MONEY**

Winning the world in a woman's heart,
the *private life* of the world's most
magnificent adventurer becomes
one of the screen events of the year!

Samuel Goldwyn PRESENTS

GARY COOPER

THE Adventures of Marco Polo

WITH

BASIL RATHBONE

ERNEST TRUAX • GEORGE BARBIER • ALAN HALE
BINNIE BARNES • And a Cast of Five Thousand

Directed by ARCHIE MAYO • Screenplay by ROBERT E. SHERWOOD



**LANA
TURNER
TOO!**



Women, glamorous and gay... who
welcomed Marco and opened their
hearts to the romantic Venetian, and
then forever treasured a memory.



The proudest princess—the fairest
flower in the court of the mighty Khan
in whose guarded pagoda a stranger
was taught how to *really* love.



The cunning and the trickery of
the East... an adventurer tries his
luck in gambling, matching wits
for the world's treasures in trade.



A hero fights through clashing armies
... and then, with his beloved, es-
capes over what today in old Peiping
is still called the Marco Polo Bridge.

ALSO
AVAILABLE
PROVEN
BOXOFFICE HITS

**DEAD END — THE COWBOY AND THE LADY — BARBARY
COAST — WUTHERING HEIGHTS — RAGGED ANGELS
RAFFLES — THE HURRICANE — ARROWSMITH
KID MILLIONS.**



H. J. ALLEN, PRES.

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TORONTO	—	MONTREAL	—	ST. JOHN, N.B.
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They Were Expendable

with Robert Montgomery, John Wayne, Donna Reed

MGM 135 Mins.
POWERFUL AND IMPRESSIVE FILM, A NOTABLE JOB OF PICTURE MAKING, RATES THE MOST EXTENSIVE PATRONAGE.

In William L. White's book about the exploits of the US Navy's P-T boats in the Pacific war Metro has found the material for an impressive film, one of inordinate power and sweep, one that deserves all the patronage it can command. "They Were Expendable" is a notable job of picture making which gains in effectiveness by its refusal to go in for false heroics and by its commendable exercise of restraint in recording the gallant and perilous deeds of the P-T men around whom the story is built.

In the film come tardy honors for the torpedo boat crews that played so important a part in the victory over the Japs. Their story has inspired Commander Frank Wead, an old hand at yarns with a naval background, to write a screenplay of scope and John Ford to lend direction that has so much heart and force that audiences will find it hard to avoid laughing and suffering with the members of the P-T crews commanded by Robert Montgomery and John Wayne. The two, aided by a cast of stalwarts, have joined in making "They Were Expendable" as believable as any war film could be and as inspiring a screen document as has been presented in some time.

Ford has served the film as well as producer as he has as director, giving it unexcelled physical properties that create a supreme air of realism. Technically, the production calls for raves, with a lot of credit due Joseph H. August the cameraman, and Cedric Gibbons and Malcolm Brown, art directors.

There is little bravado to the acting of Montgomery and Wayne, with the former being especially subdued. Donna Reed is adequate in the role of the Army nurse of whom Wayne becomes enamored. Plenty of competent acting is forthcoming from the supporting players.

CAST: Robert Montgomery, John Wayne, Donna Reed, Jack Holt, Ward Bond, Marshall Thompson, Paul Langton, Leon Ames, Arthur Walsh, Donald Curtis, Cameron Mitchell.

CREDITS: Producer, John Ford; Associate Producer, Cliff Reid; Director, John Ford; Screenplay, Frank Wead.

DIRECTION, Fine. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

Wonder Man

with Danny Kaye, Virginia Mayo

RKO 98 Mins.
GOLDWYN HITS THE JACKPOT FOR ENTERTAINMENT WITH A GEM-STUDDED PRODUCTION THAT CROWNS DANNY KAYE'S REGAL COMEDY STYLE.

Praise! Praise! Praise! For the rhyme and reason Danny gives this ectoplasmic screwball comedy... For the Hartman-Shavelson-Rapp screenplay... For Bruce Humberstone's direction... And a bouquet to Samuel Goldwyn for his lavish production.

Loaded with special song material, the film offers Kaye free rein for his dynamic personality, and his delivery of Sylvia Fine's arrangement on "Otchi-Tchornia" is top-notchornia.

The Goldwyn Girls are more alluring than ever and are artfully included to share the production honors of a "Bali Boogie" number, expressively danced by Kaye and Vera-Ellen, and the "So in Love" song which features a smart tap-routine by screen newcomer Vera-Ellen.

Getting the most out of their comedy chores, S. Z. Sakall, Edward Brophy, and Allen Jenkins deserve a plum from this Goldwyn pie. Virginia Mayo's beauty blends well with the Technicolor production and she displays an ingratiating charm in her co-starring part.

Kaye outpoints the screenplay's challenge to his exciting versatility in a dual role which has him playing an ambidextrous scholar with a photographic mind as credibly as a madcap night club entertainer whose body is disposed of in a creek when he prepares to offer evidence that will convict a dangerous gangster of murder.

The fast-moving comedy situations are punctuated by the "power of magnetic compulsion" wielded between a dead and living twin. Kaye answers the call of his dead twin brother's purpose and cleverly discloses the evidence being sought by the district attorney in an operatic sequence that will win belly laugh after belly laugh.

CAST: Danny Kaye, Virginia Mayo, Vera-Ellen, Donald Woods, S. Z. Sakall, Allen Jenkins, Ed Brophy, Steve Cochran, Otto Kruger, Ed Gargan, and the Goldwyn Girls.

CREDITS: Producer, Samuel Goldwyn; Director, Bruce Humberstone; Screenplay Don Hartman, Melville Shavelson, and Phillip Rapp; Original story, Arthur Sheekman; Adaptation, Jack Jevne, and Eddie Moran.

DIRECTION, Swell. PHOTOGRAPHY, Superb.

White Pongo

with Richard Fraser, Maris Wrixon and Lionel Royce

PRC 74 Mins.
EXPLOITATION PICTURE WELL HANDLED, SHOULD DO NICELY AT THE BOXOFFICE.

Here is an exploitation picture that should do nicely at the box-office. It was directed by Sam Newfield, and produced by Sigmund Neufeld, well experienced in this type of product.

Gordon Richards leads an expedition to the Belgian Congo in search of "White Pongo," an ape. When the expeditionary party gets lost in the jungles, Al Eben, chief guide, abandons members of the group and starts a search for gold.

Lionel Royce, another member of the party, joins Eben, and Richard Fraser takes charge of the abandoned group. "White Pongo" kills Eben, and a fight ensues between "Pongo" and a black ape.

"Pongo" is finally captured and Maris Wrixon, whom he had kidnapped, falls into the waiting arms of her sweetheart, Royce.

Characterizations, if obvious, are well handled, and the story has sufficient suspense and action to satisfy audiences.

CAST: Richard Fraser, Maris Wrixon, Lionel Royce, Al Eben, Gordon Richards, Michael Dyne, George Lloyd, Larry Steers, Milton Kibbee, Egon Brecher, Joel Fluellen.

CREDITS: Producer, Sigmund Neufeld; Director, Sam Newfield; Author, Raymond L. Shrock; Screenplay, same; Cameraman, Jack Greenhalgh; Art Director, Edward C. Jewell; Editor, Holbrook N. Todd; Musical director, Leo Erdody.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Digges to Broadway

After finishing his role in Hal Wallis' "The Searching Wind," Dudley Digges will leave Paramount to return to Broadway to step into the director's post in the production of three new Eugene O'Neill plays for the Theatre Guild.

His Majesty to See 'The Last Chance'

A command performance of "The Last Chance," the MGM International Films release, has been arranged at the request of His Majesty King George VI before its general opening in England. Produced in Switzerland with a cast almost entirely non-professional, the film track contains nine different languages, with English predominating.

Madonna of the Seven Moons

with Phyllis Calvert, Patricia Roc

Eagle-Lion 88 Mins.
ITS EMOTIONAL WORTH MAKES THIS ENGLISH PIC DESIRABLE ENTERTAINMENT FOR FEMMES.

"Madonna of the Seven Moons" brings from Great Britain a drama with a tragic ending that should appeal especially to the women. The film has been produced with vividness by R. J. Minney under the supervision of Maurice Ostrer.

Schizophrenia is the subject of the film. The dual-personality victim, whose condition is traced to an unfortunate experience with a man in her convent days, is an Italian gentlewoman married to a man of means.

When the other side of her personality exerts itself she disappears to pursue a sordid romance with a thief in the lower depths of Florence. Her final such excursion ends in death for her and grief for her husband and the daughter recently home from her schooling in England.

There is much attractiveness to the production, which Arthur Crabtree directed capably enough if with a touch of artificiality. Dramatic opportunities are made the most of in the script Roland Pertwee concocted from the Margery Lawrence novel.

Phyllis Calvert is the schizophrenic; Patricia Roc, her daughter. Both are delightful to look at. Stewart Granger as the lover and John Stuart as the husband are others who do nicely.

CAST: Phyllis Calvert, Stewart Granger, Patricia Roc, John Stuart, Peter Glenville, Nancy Price, Jean Kent, Peter Murray Hill, Dulcie Gray.

CREDITS: In charge of production, Maurice Ostrer; Producer, R. J. Minney; Associate Producer, R. E. Dearing; Director, Arthur Crabtree; Screenplay, Roland Pertwee; Based on novel by Margery Lawrence.

DIRECTION, Okay. PHOTOGRAPHY, Okay.

RKO Signs Lupino And Lamour

Ida Lupino has been signed by RKO to a pact which calls for a picture a year for three years, starting in June, 1947, when the actress's present contract with Warner Brothers expires.

This is the second contract of this type which RKO has negotiated recently. The studio has signed Dorothy Lamour to a five-year contract which calls for one picture annually from June of 1948 to the end of 1953.



W.M. J. SINGLETON

Has been promoted from the post of sales manager to general manager of Associated Screen News Limited, it was announced recently.

Honor Alf Brown

Alfred Brown, projectionist at the Capitol Theatre, Calgary, Alberta, for the last 16 years, was awarded a gold life membership card at a meeting of the Moving Picture Operators, local 302, recently. A charter member of the local, which was formed in 1913, Brown retired recently because of ill health.

Plan Six Houses In Quebec City

(Continued from Page 1)

State of the former, has also applied for a permit to build in suburban Sillery in the spring.

France Film announce that they will build a 1,200-seat theatre to be known as the Elysee, the third they would be operating in the city.

At a cost of \$300,000 Consolidated will soon start on the 2,000-seat Boulevard Theatre and a 1,500-seat house to be called the Odeon Theatre.

They also plan the Quebec Theatre as a 1,500-seat house at a cost of \$200,000, while the Orleans Theatre, also being constructed by the same company, will cost about \$125,000. It will seat 1,200 people.

Altogether six theatres will be built in Quebec City at a cost of well over a million dollars, \$800,000 of which will be spent by Consolidated Amusements, which now has a chain of 11 houses in Quebec. The contracts will be given to Quebec firms and local labor will be employed.



Picture Pioneer Pickups

EVERY annual session of the Canadian Picture Pioneers has been distinguished for its fun but this last meeting left them all behind. The entertainment committee, headed by the evergreen Jack Arthur and sparked by Tom Daley and Archie Laurie, put on diversion from soup to nuts — even though the only thing not on the mouth-watering buffet menu was soup and the nuts were human and made that way temporarily by the hilarious goading of the initiation committee.

Have you a towel handy? Put it under your chin, for you are about to drown almost in your own drool. There was venison, a gift from Jack Nelson of North Bay. There was lobster that was a production in itself. The salmon setup was strictly for the Technicolor cameras. The turkeys served did not live nor die in vain, for their remains got the most appreciative sendoff in the history of the fowl breed. After the supper came the fun and after the fun out came an extra turkey from Ray Lewis and a heavenly ham from Oscar Hanson.

Through it all the old-time dispensary, created by Johnny Poole from an idea by Ben Cronk, remained open and served the spirited whoop-de-dew. Judging by the free flow the vintage visas and potion passports of all the members must have gone into the containers.

Yesterday's youths had their fun in the good old ways of the good old days.

THE candidates for membership were lined up on the stage, then seated on two long benches while Dean Tom Daley, adorned in cap and gown, put them through a whiz of a quiz. Charlie Mavety, the sergeant-at-arms, wandered casually among the aspirants beating the beejay out of them with a stuffed sock.

After some introductory remarks that went from the sublime (for contrast) to the ridiculous (the goal), Dean Daley put Abe Polakoff through the oath for the oafs. He then called on Jim Foy of Oshawa.

"Where do you hear the anvil chorus?" he was asked. "The blacksmith shop," Jim answered. "Wrong," ruled the dean.

"Every noon at the long table in Child's."

Len Bishop got the most precarious assignment, that of talking about the men to whom he is responsible but he was warned not to tell the truth. If you think that's easy try it sometime. The Bish bobbed and weaved his way out of danger in admirable fashion.

THE initiates, who wore butcher's aprons adorned with their names and the Pioneer crest, looked like the packer's union in conference as they sat on the platform. It was suggested to them that they ought to pay for the party in gratitude for being permitted to join and all who agreed were asked to stand. Two stood. Suddenly they all got to their feet at once, each in disorganized fashion and in an awful hurry.

The benches on which they had been sitting had been wired and they had been given the hot seat!

It was impossible to fight a rear action, even though Barney Fox tried to sit it out. Right now he could be served to cannibals as roast rump.

MOST unusual assignment went to Al Easson, who was told to leave and not come back until he brought a pair of ladies' panties. Al came back when the initiation was over and flaunted two!

Unfortunately he was not asked to explain how he managed to charm either the wearers or shopkeepers out of them on a cold night.

AT the end of the initiation the candidates were lined up for what was announced as an athletic event. It turned out to be a yo-hoedown with chorines as partners. The lads and lasses hopped to it.

Before being dismissed their shoes, which had been removed earlier, were returned to the boys — tied together and in a heap. It was a mad scramble to find the proper footwear.

A GRAND part of the evening's entertainment was the stage show provided by the Jackpot Company, an aggregation of entertainers who had been playing before army audiences. I

understand Langley's financed their activities without taking advantage of advertising benefits.

Sparked by Kay Kenny's emceeing and piano playing, they did highly professional routines in a fashion that pleased the audience immensely and thrilled Jack Arthur and Walter Graydon, Walter spent years at the old Victoria and the Hippodrome and has never lost his love for live entertainment.

I didn't take long for the boys to reveal their era, for when Joanne Heywood, a promising musical comedy actress indeed, led the chorus through a George M. Cohan medley everyone joined with her in singing the old tunes. Another performer headed for the high spots is Mary Tofani, a soprano with style.

Archie Knew He Had A Good BO Picture

When Archie Laurie, Eagle-Lion top man, screened "Madonna of the Seven Moons" upon the arrival of the print, he and I differed on the BO power of the picture. I didn't think it would go more than two weeks so Archie wagered me his ration of imprisoned cheer that it would go three or more.

Well, it has done three good weeks' business at the Uptown, Toronto, by the time you read this. In the meantime an emissary of mine named Long John has atoned for my bad judgment in not recognizing Laurie's good judgment.

There is some comfort in the fact that I am not alone in adversity. Another gentleman made Archie the same wager and will be parched for the legal period also.

Who? None other than Stan Gosnell, manager of the Uptown, Toronto!

He Had Plenty

"Have you any tickets?" a lady asked the boxoffice man at a flop show.

"How do you want them, madame?" was the reply. "By the pound?"

Good Short

Had a look at the short Fred Revell brought to this country with him — "Letters From Britain." Made by the British Council, it is aimed at Canadians, being the experiences of three lads from our land in Britain. A darned good film tour of the British Isles' most historic spots.

Fred, who left here years ago, got a bit thin on the wartime diet but is having a wonderful time over here making up for it. He's doubling the enjoyment by doing his dining with old friends.



1st
**TOP
MUSICAL
OF 1946!**





In the
magazines
that are
read most

Tars
and
Spars

is advertised
to all people
who go
to motion
pictures!



"Love Is A Merry-Go-Round"

Jam-packed with entertainment! Chock-full of talent!



A singing,
shining romance...
brimming with
youth, laughter
and song!

*Singing star
of "Oklahoma!"*

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

TARS and SPARS

starring

Alfred *Janet* *Marc*
DRAKE · BLAIR · PLATT

with **SID CAESAR · JEFF DONNELL**

Produced by MILTON H. BREN, Lt. Comdr., USCGR
Directed by ALFRED E. GREEN

HEAR:
"I'm Glad I Waited For You"
* "Love Is A Merry-Go-Round"
"Kiss Me Hello"
and other great
song bits!



Produced in
cooperation with
United States Coast Guard

We Predict



ALFRED DRAKE

singing star of the famed stage hit, "Oklahoma!" (How they loved his "Oklahoma!" recordings!) will score an even greater triumph in his first screen appearance.

JANET BLAIR

and her new sweetheart will sing "I'm Glad I Waited For You", "Love Is A Merry-Go-Round" and "Kiss Me Hello" to the top of your "must hear" list...

MARC PLATT

will dance to new dizzy heights of popularity! You'll hail his incomparable "Dance in a Shooting Gallery" as the most spectacular of all his triumphs...



SID CAESAR

will be an overnight comedy sensation...for here, indeed, is the most exciting new personality... the most richly talented screen discovery of the year...



We Predict

Tars and Spars

will be one of 1946's outstanding entertainment delights!

Debunk Delinquency Claims

nile delinquency is being laid on every doorstep but the right one."

Stein took exception to a statement of Dr. Kenneth W. Rogers, head of the Big Brother Movement in Toronto, who said that young people "get all their information about how to conduct their crimes from radio and movies and are constantly being fed on pictures presenting gangsters living in fabulous luxury and the one feature of crime pictures they think is false is the moral that crime doesn't pay."

Stein declared:

"In the edition of the newspaper in which Dr. Rogers was quoted 95 Toronto theatres advertised their current attractions, and of these only six theatres were presenting as their featured attraction pictures which could loosely be described as 'gangster' movies — 'The Thin Man Goes Home,' a mystery story; 'Having a Wonderful Crime,' a farce based on mystery stories, and 'Murder, My Sweet,' a Raymond Chandler detective story.

"Pictures dealing with crime lay strong emphasis upon the fact that wrongdoers are justly punished. I find it difficult therefore to accept the statement attributed to Dr. Rogers that juveniles derive a knowledge of crime from the movies but at the same time reject the moral, so strongly emphasized, that crime does not pay.

"In Ontario the government's censor board reviews all feature pictures and short subjects before they can be shown to the public. No photograph may be displayed and no newspaper advertising may be placed without the government's approval.

"As citizens of Toronto the men in our organization are well aware of the seriousness of the juvenile delinquency problem and Famous Players theatres have always worked with any recognized welfare organization, fully cooperating with them in any practical suggestions that were made.

"We realize that there are some pictures which are not suitable for children and our policy is that these be withdrawn on Saturday matinees when most children attend theatres, and more suitable programs are substituted. Over the past 20 years we have had children's clubs in many of our theatres and we regularly present special morning cartoon shows in centres where there are large juvenile populations.

"I think it strange that none of those who expressed the opin-

Authorities Declare Little or No Evidence Exists to Tie the Movies to Crime Rate

(Continued from Page 1)



MORRIS STEIN

ion that radio and movies were the cause of juvenile delinquency mentioned the fact that the newsstands are filled with scores of cartoon books portraying the adventures of gangsters and super-criminals, which are bought by thousands of school children.

"Mrs. J. A. Couke is quoted as saying that in surveys, movies had been found to be a contributing factor in every case of juvenile delinquency. If movies are the cause of juvenile delinquency, what is the cause in Quebec where no one under the age of 16 is permitted to visit a movie theatre? And what was responsible for juvenile delinquency 25 years ago, before radio and movies were popular?"

Asks Welfare Agencies To Help Movie Clubs

A similar opinion was voiced by T. J. Bragg, vice-president of Odeon Theatres, who said:

"Any medium which endeavors to portray life in its various phases might on occasion offer a picture which some people may regard as unsuitable for children to witness. We recognize that fact and several months ago inaugurated movie clubs for young Canadians which do provide fitting entertainment for young children besides creating in them the desire to become better chil-

dren in their homes, schoolrooms and on the street.

"These movie clubs are conducted in direct opposition to our regular motion picture performances in our theatres and there is no commercial gain to our company in the operation of these clubs. Odeon solicits the interest of every person who is engaged in child welfare and education, and asks them to take an active part in the direction of movie clubs wherever they are located."

Psychologist Debunks Movie Responsibility

David Ketchum, teacher of social psychology at the University of Toronto, denied that motion pictures caused young people to turn to crime. He said:

"Most of the assertions that motion pictures cause juvenile delinquency have little or no foundation. Certainly the actual studies made by educators and scholars who had no axe to grind would put a very sharp limit on the extent to which motion pictures might possibly influence young minds to criminality.

"Some time ago a careless examination of children in a delinquent home claimed that the young people had been in the habit of seeing movies twice a week on the average. There was no study to see how often non-delinquents saw motion pictures, so that no conclusion could be drawn from the statement. But that did not stop the unfounded declaration that the movies were contributing to delinquency.

"There is absolutely no reliable material in existence which shows a direct connection between movie attendance and juvenile misbehaviour."

Attacks on Movies Evade Real Issue

Movies have as much relation to juvenile delinquency as do fairy stories, declared Ray L. Birdwhistell, lecturer in anthropology at the University of Toronto and recently associated with the University of Chicago's Committee on Human Development where he studied personality development in adolescents and worked with youth groups.

"Movies are a comparatively recent development in our lives,"

he continued, "but juvenile delinquency has always been a social problem, certainly far pre-dating the invention of motion pictures.

"Back in the old days, Wild West stories and Nick Carter novels were blamed, and before that time some other 'influence' was said to prompt criminal desires. Blaming the movies is just another way of absolving ourselves of responsibility for conditions: blame the movies and do nothing.

"The real causes of juvenile delinquency are bad housing, bad economic conditions, improper training and bad personality development. But as long as crime in children is treated as it is now, this delinquency will go on.

"There is a positive correlation between rotten housing, undernourishment, bad teaching and crime among young people. This ties in with the upset social conditions during the war and after, and with present economic conditions.

"It is a strange thing to see that what is called 'sowing his wild oats' in upper classes and 'artistic temperament' among would-be artists, is juvenile delinquency when applied to the lower classes."

Women's Leader Says Movie Men Cooperate

Mrs. Melvin Squire, film censor of the Local Council of Women, said that the council had always found theatre men in Canada willing to cooperate with her organization in the matter of controlling matinee programs for children.

"We have had occasion to point out to them that certain pictures were not suitable for Saturday matinees," she said, "and they have willingly removed them from the matinee showing by substituting something more suitable. O. J. Silverthorne, chairman of the censorship board, is also always willing to cooperate whenever we ask his help.

"Children are different and what is all right for one may not be all right for another. If parents are sending their children to the movies, they should at least acquaint themselves with the nature of the picture by reading reviews and studying the advertisements."

Declares Films Are Best Mass Entertainment

Clare J. Appel, eastern manager of the Odeon Theatres, declared he thought nothing could compare with the universal popularity of motion pictures.

"If it has done no other good but that of bringing the common

(Continued on Page 12)

Nathanson Quits British Lion

(Continued from Page 1)

Alexander Korda, who resigned recently as head of MGM in Britain.

The Montreal Trust Company, executors of the Nathanson estate, handled the Canadian end of the purchase.

British Lion was founded by the late N. L. Nathanson, the late Sam Woolf Smith and Andrew V. Holt, son of Sir Herbert Holt. Nathanson and Smith subsequently purchased Holt's interest, with Smith, who entered the industry in Canada, remaining managing director.

Since Smith died in October of last year, the future of British Lion has remained uncertain. The company, which produced "In Which We Serve," had its studio space returned recently by the British government.

H. Burford-Judge, chairman of the present board, is also retiring from the company and a new executive roster is being set up.

British Lion, hindered in production during the war, concentrated on the distribution of Republic films, for which it holds the Old Country franchise.

BBC Television

BBC television broadcasting started again last week after a blackout of six years.

Experts Debunk 'Delinquency'

(Continued from Page 11)

man an evening of escape from his troubles, it has earned its right to praise from fair-minded people. Those loudest in their condemnation of the screen all too often know too little about it. They raise their voices in criticism of a vast medium of entertainment because of their objection to one picture, while they close their eyes to the great comfort and enjoyment a dozen other films have spread in their midst."

Other motion picture men pointed out that the Lord Chief Justice of Great Britain, Lord Hewart, dismissed the contention that movies help to make criminals, declaring "If virtue triumphed in actual life as regularly as on the films, this world might be an easier place both to police and to understand."

In 1939, over 5,000 police chiefs of Canada and the United States voted their annual award to James Cagney, who plays so many so-called "tough guy" roles, as the person who had done most to discourage crime in the land.

No Basis for Claims Censor Declares

O. J. Silverthorne, Ontario censor, in his yearly statement said that the board of censors "has attempted during the year to assess the responsibility of the mo-

tion picture for the mis-conduct of juveniles and adolescents, which is particularly apparent in urban centres of the province. In its effort to reach a conclusion upon this subject, which must engage its attention continually, it was found that while the topic had been of concern to socially-minded organizations, there existed nothing by way of authoritative fact which might be of assistance to the board.

"Also, the board had been advised by competent authorities that, in the absence of established fact, a proper study to determine the relation of the motion picture to juvenile delinquency would require at least from three to five years' close application.

"After a study of statistics of the Toronto board of education and separate school board, relating to primary and secondary school population, of delinquency reports of the Big Brother Movement, and finally of entertainment offered in different sections of Toronto, the board believes it is on solid ground when it takes the position that the film is never an only factor, and rarely the principal factor, in contributing to juvenile misbehavior. Also, competent authority in the field of social science is unable to determine to what extent the film is responsible for juvenile misconduct."

In their own field, motion picture men point out, they have public service and charitable organizations such as the Variety Tents, a group similar to Rotary and other service clubs, which work to combat the real sources of crime among young people. They see it as significant that one of their own group, Paul Moss, an ex-showman with an interest in motion pictures, when he became license commissioner of New York City was the first to campaign against salacious shows, closing a number of them and refusing licenses to those which attempted to continue. He it was, too, who arranged to have theatres set apart a section of their seating capacity for children, the area supervised by a uniformed matron with experience in handling children.

Theatre managers are among the most active in every community in those projects which work for civic betterment.

Pratt Promoted

James Pratt has been named production manager of International Pictures after serving as assistant to John Beck, Jr., general manager, for some time.

Indies' Meeting Elects Officers

(Continued from Page 1)

for the 1946 term of office was the election of Frank Rooney, Toronto, as a director. He replaced Lou Davidson.

Bruce McCleod, Kitchener, is vice-president; Harry Lester, Toronto, treasurer, and Harry Romberg, Toronto, secretary.

Garson Soloway, Toronto, is in charge of public relations.

The directors are Max Starkman, Herman Bennett and Frank Rooney, all from Toronto.

The association is a branch of the National Council of Independents, the president of which is Mayor A. J. Mason of Springfield, NS.

The National Council has been comparatively inactive since the collapse last year of negotiations for the establishment of regional conciliation boards. It is expected to meet in Toronto or Ottawa in February.

Monogram Has 16 Movies Ready

Steve Broidy, president of Monogram, announces his company has 16 films completed and in preparation for release. Heading the list is "Suspense," with Belita, Barry Sullivan, Bonita Granville, Albert Dekker and Eugene Pallette; others are "Joe Palooka, Champ," with Leon Errol and Elyse Knox; "Charlie Chan at Alcatraz," with Sidney Toler; and "Swing Parade of 1946," featuring Gale Storm, Phil Regan, Connie Boswell, The Three Stooges and the orchestra of Will Osborne and Louis Jordan's Tympani Five.

Mature Returns

Victor Mature has received a new term contract from Darryl F. Zanuck and will play opposite Ida Lupino in "The High Window," the Raymond Chandler thriller, for 20th Century-Fox.

Roach Plans 100% Color Program

Entire production of the Hal Roach studios in 1946 will be filmed completely in Cinecolor, making this Culver City film maker the only one in the industry devoted entirely to color and producing only comedies. "A few years will see the production of black and white pictures antiquated by color just as sound replaced the old silent films," Roach declared. "The public will become more color conscious."

Fully three-quarters of a million is being spent on adapting the studio to the technique required for the new all-color program of films.

Ivan Ackery Wins MGM Award



Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "Certificate of Showmanship" was awarded recently to Ivan Ackery, manager of the Orpheum Theatre, Vancouver, BC. He is the first Canadian to win the recognition, recently instituted by MGM for outstanding efforts by theatre managers in their promotion of MGM pictures. The presentation was made at the Vancouver city hall by the mayor.

Present at the ceremony were, left to right: Charles Ramage, manager of MGM; Ivan Ackery receiving the award from Mayor J. W. Cornett; Maynard S. Joiner, Famous Players district manager, who added his congratulations.

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UNITED ARTISTS

New Directors Appointed by Shelly Films Ltd.



W. HOWARD BATTEN

E. W. BICKLE

W. P. SCOTT

Three prominent figures in Canadian business circles have been appointed directors of Shelly Films Limited, producers of educational, industrial and documentary motion pictures and film slides. The company recently acquired the administration building of the former Small Arms Plant at Long Branch, Ontario, and is now producing for national advertisers. Leon C. Shelly is president and managing director of the company.

Exhibs in Regina Protest Midway

Regina motion picture exhibitors recently sent a delegation to the city council to oppose the operation of a carnival within the city as unfair competition. The protest, lodged by C. R. Davidson, representing the Regina Motion Picture Theatre Organization, and Isadore Reinhorn, manager of the Roxy Theatre, was directed against Crescent Shows appearing again this summer.

Davidson protested to council against allowing Crescent Shows to return to Regina on the same terms as last year because they do not pay the same taxes as established theatres.

The plea was directed against a request of W. S. Hawrylak, chairman of the Community Swimming Pools fund campaign, who asked that if the midway was allowed to operate, it be on condition that it donate \$600 to the pool fund as promised.

"Theatres have to operate in all seasons," Davidson pointed out, "while this concession comes along at the peak season and whips off the cream." He estimated theatre loss for the period of the show's run as \$30,000.

Council agreed not to allow Crescent Shows in Regina for four weeks before the exhibition and for two weeks afterwards.

Miss Whelan Returns

Arleen Whelan, Broadway stage star of "The Doughgirls," will return to the screen in "Suddenly It's Spring."

'Peg Syndicate Buys Orpheum

The Orpheum Theatre, Fort Street, Winnipeg, once a show-place which featured the great artists of vaudeville days, has been sold to a Winnipeg syndicate. Names of the syndicate members have not been disclosed.

The theatre was built in the early days of this century at a cost of \$225,000 and for many years was a unit of the old Orpheum circuit. It has been under lease to Famous Players Canadian Corporation, but this lease expires in 1951.

Sale price is said to have been \$30,000, and adjoining property costing \$7,500 has been purchased. It is doubtful if the building will remain as a theatre, since Famous Players, who bought all the fixtures, are advertising equipment, furniture and fixtures for sale.

Since early in the war the theatre has been used by the Greater Winnipeg Co-ordinating Board to stage entertainment for service personnel.

Durante, Melchior In New MGM Pic

Jimmy Durante and opera singer Lauritz Melchior will have the key roles in MGM's forthcoming musical "This Time For Keeps." Sharon McManus, the kid who danced with Gene Kelly in "Anchors Aweigh," will also be featured. Joe Pasternak will produce the picture.

Expansion Cost Is \$75 Million

A gigantic expansion program in the film industry is being launched with the earmarking of \$35,000,000 for new construction and renovation this year in Hollywood studios alone. More than \$75,000,000 will be spent on a five-year building program following this initial splurge. Only holdup at the moment is the lack of labor and material, but this situation promises to ease in a short time.

Columbia is planning to spend nearly ten million dollars on a new film plant, a new studio and the construction of over 20 sound stages, while RKO will construct a new studio away from the present one, hemmed in by the city.

A new office building which will house script, wardrobe, music and international departments and new sound stages with general renovation at a cost of \$5,000,000 are planned by MGM.

The other studios all have long-range construction and repair plans, with Universal adding \$500,000 to its total for equipment replacement. Republic has tagged two million for new construction and sufficient extra money for the purchase of a six-place helicopter, a 21-passenger plane and two heavy cargo planes for studio use.

Wolpin At Para

Ed Wolpin has been appointed general professional manager of Famous Music Company and Paramount Music Company, the companies announce.

Pension Scheme At Gen'l Films

One of the most advanced employee pension plans in the film industry has been inaugurated by General Films Limited, 16 mm. film and equipment company, it was announced recently by S. C. Atkinson, president of the firm. The meeting at which the plan was announced to the staff was attended by representatives of the Great-West Life Assurance Company, which will administer the plan.

The scheme, which will cover all the employees of General Films Ltd., and associated companies, calls for a monthly contribution by employees amounting to five per cent of the taxable income. The company will pay the balance of the fund necessary to maintain the plan.

Provision is made for retirement at the age of 65, although it will be possible for an employee to retire at any time after 55 if health conditions or any other "good cause" makes such a change desirable.

In the event an employee leaves the firm, the total amount paid into the fund will be returned, plus 2½ per cent interest.

The plan is so devised that with the exception of a two-year probationary period, the entire cost of past services will be borne by the company, so that a man who has been with the company for seven years, would have back payments for five years paid up by the company.

A number of film distributing companies have been endeavoring to get the government to sanction similar pension funds in their section of the industry.

Another in Quebec

Shawinigan Falls, Quebec, city council have granted a construction permit to Dr. J. E. Guibord who plans to build a new theatre. He is the present owner of a local house.

Covert Away

William P. Covert, Canadian organizer for the IATSE and an international vice-president, is in Houston, Texas, for the general executive meeting of that organization.

Double Trouble

While police held one man on a charge of having broken into the Imperial Theatre, St. Johns, Quebec, they discovered thieves had broken into the theatre the following night and escaped with \$800 from the theatre's safe.

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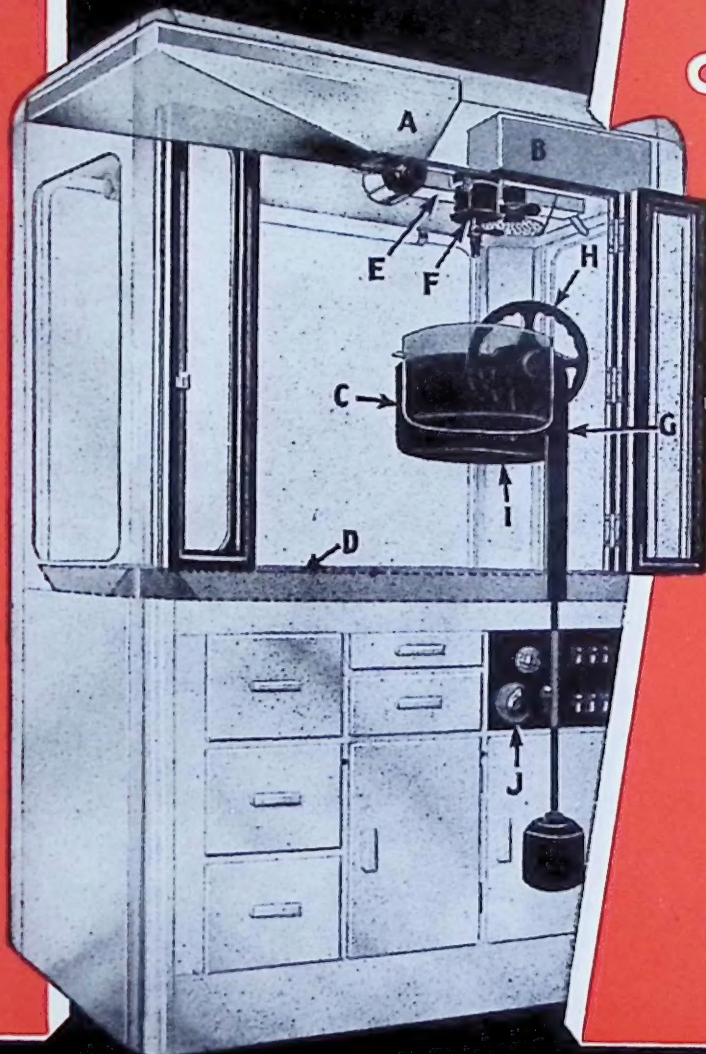
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